

would urge the body to reject the committee amendments because we don't even have something that's workable now that we adopted Senator Labeledz's amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Bernard-Stevens, followed by Senator Firsch.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, just a couple of comments. I, too, would rise and hope that we would not agree to the committee amendments. Sitting on the Government Committee as I did with the other committee members and working through this bill, the committee amendments set up a process to which 588 would be able to...a transition be able to be made relatively orderly. With the Labeledz amendment on there, as Senator Baack has already stated, there is no process now so the committee amendments at this point do not improve the bill at all. In fact, I would hope that we would not agree to the committee amendments. On another different topic, one of the things that happens in the legislative body as we all try to take advantages of rules, and, of course, Senator Labeledz was perfectly within her right to go as an amendment to the committee amendments so that you do not need a majority. I would hate to think that the body, on an amendment that has not yet received 25 votes, nor do I doubt will receive 25 votes, would allow that particular procedure to prevail. I would hope that all senators would maintain the positions that they have, defeat the committee amendments and then at that point the committee would be open and that part of the mechanism that were originally part of the committee amendments would be offered, I'm sure, as an amendment and we could get the procedure taken care of with the 25 vote maximum. What we have is a playing with the rules a little bit and now we see the reward of that. We had some fun on the less than 25 amendments to the amendments, we don't have 25 so now we're going to play the games of having to get 25. I hope the body gets itself together for the most part and says we don't have a majority, we'll defeat the committee amendments and we'll move onward because we have a tremendous number of things to do in the body than to play too many games of this sort. So I hope we can defeat the committee amendments, go on with the bill through the proper amendment process. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Pirsch, followed by Senator Rod Johnson.